

Message Text

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61

ACTION H-03

INFO OCT-01 ARA-06 ISO-00 SS-07 NSC-06 AID-01 SSO-00 /024 W

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R 172213Z MAR 76

FM AMEMBASSY SANTIAGO

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 7800

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E. O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: OREP (MOFFETT, TOBY/MILLER, GEORGE/HARKIN, TOM)

SUBJECT: FURTHER FALLOUT FROM CODEL MOFFETT VISIT

REF: SANTIAGO 2172

1. SUMMARY: GOC CAMPAIGN AGAINST CODEL AND ITS PRIVATE CONTACTS IN CHILE CONTINUED WITH STRONGLY WORDED, UNATTRIBUTED STATEMENT THAT ALSO FALSELY IMPLICATED EMBOFF IN ACTIVITY CONSIDERED NEFARIOUS. END SUMMARY.

2. GOC MORNING MARCH 17 HANDED OUT TO PRESS ON UNATTRIBUTED BASIS LONG STATEMENT ATTACKING CODEL ON LINES INDICATED IN PREVIOUS EMBASSY REPORTING. UPI AND AP APPARENTLY ARE FILING STORIES. STATEMENT THREATENED PRIVATE CHILEANS WHO GAVE CODEL INFORMATION IT MIGHT USE AGAINST CHILE, AND STATED FALSELY THAT POLCOUNS CHARLES STOUT HAD WORKED WITH VICARIATE OF SOLIDARITY (REFTEL) IN MAKING APPOINTMENTS WITH "MARXISTS AND CHRISTIAN DEMOCRATS." SIMILAR, UNATTRIBUTED MATERIAL WITHOUT PEJORATIVE REFERENCE TO EMBOFF WAS RELEASED, WE UNDERSTAND, BY INTERIOR MINISTER BENAVIDES, AND ANOTHER VERSION APPEARED IN AFTERNOON EDITION OF SENSATION-ALIST LA SEGUNDA.

3. GOC STATEMENT SAID CODEL HAD GATHERED INFORMATION FROM "SECTORS INTERESTED IN CREATING A BAD IMAGE OF THE GOVERNMENT." WHATEVER CODEL STATES OR DOES IN FUTURE IS RESULT OF CONTACTS WITH PEOPLE "WHO GAVE A BADLY INTENDED EXPOSITION OF CHILEAN REALITY. ACCORDINGLY, THE GOVERNMENT HOLDS THEM (THE CODEL'S CONTACTS) RESPONSIBLE FOR ATTITUDE THSES GENTLEMEN (CODEL) ADOPT IN INFORMATION THEY

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GIVE ON RETURN TO US." THOSE CHILEANS BY THEIR "ANTIPATRIOTIC

POSITION" GAVE WEAPONS TO CHILE'S ENEMIES.

4. TO CLARIFY FACTUAL SITUATION BEFORE AMBASSADOR MEETS WITH
FONMIN, EMBASSY EVENING MARCH 17 RELEASED FOLLOWING STATEMENT:
"THE EMBASSY WISHES TO STATE THAT NONE OF ITS OFFICERS ARRANGED
ANY MEETINGS BETWEEN THE US CONGRESSIONAL DELEGATION AND NON-
GOVERNMENTAL CHILEANS. THE EMBASSY DID ASK THE MINISTRY OF FOREIGN
AFFAIRS TO ARRANGE MEETINGS WITH CERTAIN CHILEAN GOVERNMENT
OFFICIALS." EMBOFF READ STATEMENT TO FONMIN OFFICIAL WHO
HANDLED CODEL'S VISIT, AND TO VICARIATE OFFICIAL. (IT WILL BE
RECALLED LATTER HAD EXPRESSED FEAR EPISODE WOULD BE USED BY
CHILEAN GOVERNMENT AGAINST VICARIATE.)
POPPER

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